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Poulton-le-Fylde
Urban District Council

# ANNUAL REPORT

*on the*

# *Health & Sanitary Conditions*

*for 1949*

G. G. WRAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Printed by A. Phillips, Sandy Lane, Preesall, nr. Fleetwood

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# Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

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To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde
Urban District Council.

Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year ending December 31st, 1949.

I have to express my thanks to the members of the Council for their support and co-operation, and for the assistance which I have constantly received from the Sanitary Inspector, Mr. W. G Woolley.

I am, Sir and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. G. WRAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.
*Medical officer of Health.*

## MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT.

The area of the district is 2,410 acres, it is divided into five wards, viz. : Poulton North, Poulton East, Poulton West, Hardhorn and Carleton. It is bounded on the North side by the Urban District of Thornton-Cleveleys, on the East and South by the Parishes of Singleton and Hardhorn-with-Newton, and on the West by the County Borough of Blackpool.

The district is mainly residential, and most of the industrial population is employed by agriculture, the Imperial Chemical Industries, the British Railways and the Building Trades.

The area is supplied with good and wholesome water by the Fylde Water Board. The whole of the area is sewered on the partially separate system ; and is carried by gravitation to storage tanks situate on Skippool Marsh, and discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide.

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### Births.

Births :—Boys 37; Girls 43 ; Total 82.

The number of births registered in the district was 82, giving a birth rate of 10.8 per thousand of the population as against 15.4 per thousand for the previous year.

There were four illegitimate births, and four still births registered.

### Infantile Mortality.

Three deaths under one year have been recorded during the year—giving a rate of 37 per thousand live births as against 42 for the previous year.

The rate for England and Wales during the year was 32.

### Deaths.

Males 60. Females 38. Total 98.

The number of deaths in the district was 98 after deducting deaths of persons not resident in the district, and adding deaths of residents which occurred in other districts.

## Causes of Death.

| | Males | Females | Total |
|---|---|---|---|
| All Causes | 60 | 38 | 98 |
| Influenza | 1 | — | 1 |
| Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | 4 | — | 4 |
| Other forms of Tuberculosis | 2 | — | 2 |
| Syphilitic Diseases | — | — | — |
| Cancer | 12 | 5 | 17 |
| Intra-cranial Vascular Lesions | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| Heart Disease | 26 | 11 | 37 |
| Other Circulatory Diseases | — | — | — |
| Bronchitis | — | 3 | 3 |
| Pneumonia | — | 1 | 1 |
| Other Respiratory Diseases | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Maternal Causes | — | — | — |
| Appendicitis | — | — | — |
| Digestive Diseases other than appendicitis | — | 3 | 3 |
| Nephritis | 1 | — | 1 |
| Congenital Debility, Premature Births, etc. | — | 2 | 2 |
| Suicide | 1 | — | 1 |
| Road Traffic Accidents | — | — | — |
| Other Violence | 1 | — | 1 |
| All Other Causes | 5 | 6 | 11 |
| Diarrhoea under two years | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever | — | — | — |
| Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough | — | — | — |
| Diabetes | — | — | — |
| | 60 | 38 | 98 |

This gives a crude death rate of 12.9 per thousand, compared with 14.2 in the previous year.

### Tuberculosis:

The number of new cases notified during the year was eight. Six of which were respiratory and two non-respiratory. Six deaths from Tuberculosis were recorded, four respiratory and two non-respiratory.

The notification of tuberculosis is satisfactory.

Table showing New Cases and Mortality during 1949—

| Age Periods | New Cases. | | | | Deaths | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | | Respiratory | | Non-Respiratory | |
| | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. | M. | F. |
| 0–1 | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| 1–5 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 5–10 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | 1 | – |
| 10–15 | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – | – |
| 15–20 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 20–25 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – | – | – |
| 25–35 | 1 | 1 | 1 | – | – | – | – | – |
| 35–45 | – | 1 | 1 | – | 1 | – | – | – |
| 45–55 | – | – | – | – | 1 | – | – | – |
| Over 55 | 1 | – | – | – | 2 | – | – | – |
| Totals | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 4 | – | 2 | – |

## Cancer (Malignant Disease).

There were seventeen deaths from Cancer during the year, giving a rate of 2.23 per thousand as against 2.35 for the previous year.

## Diphtheria.

No cases of Diphtheria were notified during the year.

Supplies of Diphtheria Anti-Toxin are now obtainable by Medical Practitioners from Victoria Hospital, Blackpool.

## Scarlet Fever.

During the year fifteen cases of Scarlet Fever have been notified. No inoculation has been effected with regard to Scarlet Fever. The incidence of the cases was sporadic.

## Influenza.

With the exception of sporadic cases of Influenza, the district has been comparatively free during the year.

## Infectious Diseases.

152 cases of infectious diseases were notified during the year.

## Table of Cases of Notifiable Diseases during 1949

| NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. | Total cases of all ages. | AGE PERIODS — YEARS | | | | | | | | | | | | Total Deaths | HOSPITAL | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Under 1 | 1— | 2— | 3— | 4— | 5— | 10— | 15— | 20— | 35— | 45— | 65 & Over | | Total cases Removed to Hospital. | Deaths in hospital of persons belonging to district. |
| Smallpox ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Scarlet Fever ... ... ... ... | 15 | — | — | 1 | — | 4 | 6 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | 11 | — |
| Diphtheria (incl. Membranous Croup) | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Enteric Fever (incl. Paratyphoid) ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Whooping Cough ... ... ... | 16 | 3 | — | 5 | 1 | 3 | 4 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Measles (excl. German Measles) ... | 114 | 1 | 19 | 20 | 12 | 15 | 46 | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute pneumonia (primary & Influenza) | 3 | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | — | — | — | 2 | — | — | — | 1 | — |
| Puerperal Pyrexia ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Cerebro-spinal Fever ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Poliomyelitis ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Acute Polio-encephalitis ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Encephalitis lethargica ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Dysentery ... ... ... ... | 2 | 1 | — | 1 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Erysipelas ... ... ... ... | 2 | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | 1 | 1 | — | — | 2 | — |
| Malaria ... ... ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| Any other diseases ... ... ... | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — | — |
| TOTALS ... ... ... | 152 | 5 | 19 | 27 | 13 | 22 | 57 | 5 | — | — | 3 | 1 | — | — | 14 | — |

## Measles.

There were one hundred and fourteen cases of measles notified during the year. None of the cases proved fatal.

## Bacteriological Examination.

Facilities for the examination of material for suspected cases of Diphtheria, Typhoid Fever, Tuberculosis, etc., are available for all medical practitioners.

## Home Nursing and Midwifery Service.

General Nursing cases and confinements are attended by District Nurses and Midwives of the Lancashire County Council.

## Clinic and Treatment Centres.

There are no clinic or treatment centres under the direct control of the local authority.

A school clinic and Child Welfare Centre are held in the morning and afternoon respectively every Tuesday in the Church Hall, Vicarage Road, by the School and Child Welfare Departments of the Lancashire County Council.

A campaign against Venereal Disease is carried out by the County Council in co-operation with the local authority The centres for the treatment of these cases are at Victoria Hospital Blackpool, and the Royal Infirmary, Preston.

## Hospitals.

There is no hospital situated within the district. For general cases the main hospitals used are the Blackpool Victoria and Wesham Park Hospitals of the Blackpool and Fylde Hospital Management Committee and the Preston Royal Infirmary of the Preston and Chorley Hospital Management Committee.

Infectious diseases cases are admitted to Moss Side Hospital, near Lytham, or the Devonshire Road Hospital, Blackpool, excepting cases of tuberculosis and smallpox. Main provision for tuberculosis

is at Elswick Sanatorium. Accommodation for smallpox is provided by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board at the Ainsworth Smallpox Hospital, Near Bury.

## Ambulance Facilities.

The ambulance service is now administered by the Lancashire County Council. The nearest Ambulance Station to the Poulton District is situated at Thornton and in general ambulances are obtained from this station.

## National Assistance Act, 1948 - Section 47 :-

No. of applications made during 1949 under sub-section 3—Nil.

## Water Supply.

The Fylde Water Board, of which Poulton-le-Fylde is a constituent authority, provides a plentiful and excellent supply of water from their gathering grounds at Grizedale and Stocks.

## Supplies to Houses.

| From Public Mains | | | | From Private Supplies | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Direct to Houses | | By Means of Standpipe | | | |
| No. of Dwelling Houses | No. of Population | No. of Dwelling Houses | No. of Population | No. of Dwelling Houses | No. of Population |
| 2210 | 7592 | Nil | Nil | 5 | 26 |

## Milk Supply.

There are 39 cow-keepers registered and 10 dairy-men. During the year 25 samples of milk were subject to analysis under the Food and Drugs Act. The results of analysis were all reported as satisfactory with the exception of one sample which proved to be 10% deficient in Fat content.

## Housing Conditions.

1. **General Observations as to Housing conditions.**

Housing conditions in the district are good. 90 per cent of the houses are modern and the older property in the centre of the town is kept in a fair state of repair by the owners.

There are no back-to-back or back-to-earth houses in the District.

## 2. Sufficiency of Supply of Houses.

### (a) Extent of Shortage.

There is a definite shortage of houses in the area. 300 applications for municipal houses are already filed.

### (b) Particulars of any Housing Scheme.

The Council have let contracts for 109 houses on Lower Green Estate of which 97 were completed at the end of 1949.

It is proposed to compulsorily purchase 17.225 acres of land on the south side of Garstang Road East on which approximately 170 houses, shops and flats will be built, the work commencing in 1950.

In addition it is proposed to purchase 0.75 acres of land in Stanley Avenue on which 8 flats and one pair of houses will be built, and 0.147 acres of land purchased in Princess Avenue on which a block of three houses will be built.

### (c) Information as to any important changes in population.

No important changes.

### (d) Any special difficulties in the way of providing suitable sites for new houses.

None.

## 3. Overcrowding.

### (a) Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the local authority which have been relieved during 1949 : Six.

### (b) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the local authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding : Nil.

### (c) Any other particulars with respect to over crowding, e.g. causes :

From the applications for Council Houses which have been received, it would appear that in many cases overcrowding is due to newly-married couples living with their parents due to the shortage of houses to let.

4. **Fitness of Houses..**

(a) **Difficulties found in action under the Public Acts or under the Housing Acts :** None.

(b) **Special Measures taken e.g. in relation to carrying out programmes of repair :** None.

(c) **No. of houses which have not an adequate internal water supply :** None.

(d) **No. of houses which have no separate water closet or other adequate sanitary accommodation :** None.

5. **Unhealthy Areas :** None.

6. **Action taken during the year regarding :—**

(1) **Clearance Areas :** None.

(2) **Improvement Areas :** None.

7. **Byelaws relating to houses, etc.**

Adequate.

## Disinfection of Houses.

One terminal Disinfection has been carried out during the year. Disinfectant fluid is issued to all cases of infectious disease on request.

## Eradication of Bed Bugs.

*Particulars of Action taken during* 1949.

No. of Houses found to be infested.

(*a*) Council Houses None. (*b*) Other Houses. One.

No. of Houses disinfested.

(*a*) Council Houses None. (*b*) Other Houses. One.

Methods employed for freeing infested Houses from Bed bugs.

Cyanide Gas.

Methods of Ensuring that the belongings of tenants are free from Vermin before removal to Council Houses : Houses and furniture inspected.

Is work of disinfestation carried out by Local Authority or by a Contractor : By a Contractor.

Measures taken by way of Supervision or Education of tenants to prevent infestation or re-infestation after cleansing.....None.

## Summary of Report.

The birth rate shows a decrease on last year.

The crude death rate is lower than in 1948 and than the average for the past five years.

The mortality for Cancer shows a decrease ; and that of Tuberculosis shows an increase on the figure for 1948.

The maternal mortality is Nil and the infant mortality is lower.

The general incidence of infectious diseases was low with the exception of measles and scarlet fever.

## Vital Statistics, 1948.

| | Total | Male | Female |
|---|---|---|---|
| Births in 1949..... | 82 | 37 | 45 |
| Deaths in 1949..... | 98 | 60 | 38 |
| Still Births in 1949..... | 4 | 2 | 2 |

| 7,618 Population | Live Birth Rate | Crude Death Rate | Per 1,000 of Population. Death rate from Tuberculosis of Respiratory System | Death rate from Cancer | Maternal Mortality Rate Per 1,000 live Births | Per 1,000 total still & live Births | Rate of Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live Births |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mean of 5 years | | | | | | | |
| 1944-48 | 15.6 | 13.4 | 0.28 | 2.02 | Nil | Nil | 48 |
| 1948 | 15.4 | 14.2 | 0.39 | 2.35 | Nil | Nil | 42 |
| 1949 | 10.8 | 12.9 | 0.53 | 2.23 | Nil | Nil | 37 |
| Increase or decrease in 1949 on 5 years' average 1944-48 | —4.8 | —0.5 | +0.25 | +0.21 | Nil | Nil | —11 |
| Previous year | —4.6 | —1.3 | +0.14 | —0.12 | Nil | Nil | —5 |

# Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council

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# SANITARY INSPECTOR'S REPORT

on

# The Sanitary Condition

of the

## District for the Year Ended 31st December, 1949

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To the Chairman and Members of the Poulton-le-Fylde Urban District Council.

**Sir and Gentlemen,**

I beg to present to you my nineteenth Annual Report on the sanitary conditions of the district and the work done during the year ended 31st December, 1949.

Area of District, 2,410 Acres; Population, 7,618.

Number of inhabited houses at the end of 1949 according to Rate Book: 2,215.

### Particulars of Sanitary Accommodation.

| | |
|---|---|
| Privy Closets | 29 |
| Pail Closets | 37 |
| Waste Water Closets | 5 |
| Fresh Water Closets | 2,745 |
| Dry Ashpits | 17 |
| Movable Ashbins | 2,303 |

## Conversions.

| | | During year 1949 |
|---|---|---|
| No. of privy closets | to fresh water closets..... | 1 |
| | to waste water closets..... | 0 |
| | to pails, etc..... | 0 |
| No. of pail closets | to fresh water closets..... | 0 |
| | to waste water closets..... | 0 |
| Number of houses at which movable ashbins have been substituted for fixed receptacles.... | | 0 |

## Sewerage.

Regular cleansing and rodding of the sewers have been carried out. The Disposal works consist of Ferro-Concrete tanks with a capacity of six times the dry weather flow of the district served by the sewers. Before the sewage enters these tanks it passes through a screening chamber. The outfall consists of a 27 inch diameter cast iron main fitted with the necessary valves and tidal flap and the sewage is discharged into the River Wyre Estuary on the ebb tide. These works have been satisfactorily maintained during the year and there have been no complaints.

## Scavenging.

The scavenging of the district has been done regularly The refuse is collected in a covered motor lorry and is conveyed away from the town to Skippool Marsh, where the resultant tip is under control.

## Camping Sites.

| | |
|---|---|
| (*a*) No of sites in the area which were used for camping purposes during 1949. | Twenty-seven |
| (*b*) No. of camping sites in respect of which licences have been issued by local authority under section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936. | Two |
| (*c*) Estimated maximum number of campers resident in the area at one time during the summer season, 1949. | 760 |

## Sanitary Inspections.

No. of premises visited, 360.
Defects or nuisances : No. discovered 190; No. abated 184.
No. of Notices served :—Informal 151 ; Statutory—None
Legal proceedings :—None.

## Work for which Building Licences were issued, 1949.

| | |
|---|---|
| Electricity Services | 4 |
| Heating Systems | 3 |
| Repairs to Brickwork | 1 |
| Repairs to Floors | 2 |
| Internal Decorations | 12 |
| New W.C. Pedestals | 2 |
| Repairs to Roofs | 3 |
| Repairs to Doors and Windows | 6 |
| Repairs to Paths | 2 |
| New Fireplaces and Repairs to same | 7 |
| Repairs and re-building of Greenhouses | 2 |
| Alterations and Additions to Buildings | 13 |
| Exterior Painting | 6 |
| Interior Repairs to Plaster | 1 |
| Repairs to Sinks | 2 |
| General Repairs and Reconditioning | 7 |
| New Fences and Walls | 3 |
| | 76 |

## Factories Act, 1937.

### 1. Inspection of Factories and Other Premises.

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| (i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| (ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. | 32 | 35 | 0 | 0 |
| (iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises.) | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total .... .... .... | 32 | 35 | 0 | 0 |

2. Defects found in Factories and Other Premises.

| Particulars | Number of cases in which defects were found | | | | Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Found | Remedied | Referred To H.M. Inspector | Referred By H.M. Inspector | |
| Want of cleanliness (S.1) .... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Overcrowding (S.2) .... .... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unreasonable temperature (S.3) .... .... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Inadequate ventilation (S.4).. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6) .... .... .... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sanitary Conveniences (S.7): (a) Insufficient .... .... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| (b) Unsuitable or defective | 4 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| (c) Not separate for sexes . | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to homework) .... | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total .... .... .... | 4 | 3 | 0 | 4 | 0 |

## Bakehouses.

Number on Register :—8. Conditions :—Good.

## Common Lodging Houses.

There is one common lodging house in the district, and the accommodation is for 32. It has been regularly inspected and has been kept in a very satisfactory condition.

I am,

Sir and Gentleman,

Your obedient Servant,

WILFRED G. WOOLLEY,

Cert. R. San. Inst.,

Surveyor and Sanitary Inspector.